(iii) Allocation of 10.10 lakh MTs of foodgrains under Special Component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) scheme for relief employment. It has been decided to allocate further 19 lakh MTs upto July, 2003, under a special package of such allocations;

(iv) Allocation of 30,000 MTs of cattle grade feed;

(v) Assistance under Macro Management Scheme for supply of 2.40 lakh minikits;

(vi) Free transportation of water and fodder by the Railways upto June, 2003;

(vii) Formulation of a scheme for cattle care measures through NGOs;

(viii) Decision to convert Kharif 2002 loans into medium term loans, suspension of interest thereon during current year and not charging one year's interest;

(ix) Release of funds under related schemes implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments.

Provision of further assistance from NCCF, etc. for current drought is under consideration.

Constructions by Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium in Kashmir

331. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied with the working of Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium; and

(b) if so, whether Government would persuade the consortium to undertake construction of Tatra Pack units and apple juice factories at various places in Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium aims at increasing value addition at the hands of small farmers. Such ventures are assisted by way of equity support to the units set up by farmers' cooperatives, private and Joint Venture enterprises in all the States, including Jammu & Kashmir.

Horticulture development in Jammu and Kashmir

332. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would be interested in the development of horticulture in Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(b) if so, whether Government would ensure production of apple juice in Kashmir on the pattern of Leh Berry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of India is assisting the state of Jammu & Kashmir in Development of Horticulture through its various schemes including implementation of a Centrally sponsored Scheme "Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of State efforts through work plans". Under this scheme funds are allocated to state. The State can pursue the programme of Horticulture development under this scheme as per its needs. Besides, National Horticulture Board under its programme "Development of Commercial Horticulture through production and post-harvest management" provides assistance in the form of back ended capital subsidy @ 20% of total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakhs. Agricultural Produce Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce, is also implementing various programmes for Horticulture industry which are availed by Jammu & Kashmir also.

In order to provide focused attention to the Development of Horticulture in the State, a Technology Mission on Horticulture is in the process of implementation. The mission includes project based back-ended capital subsidy tor setting industry including for production of apple juice.